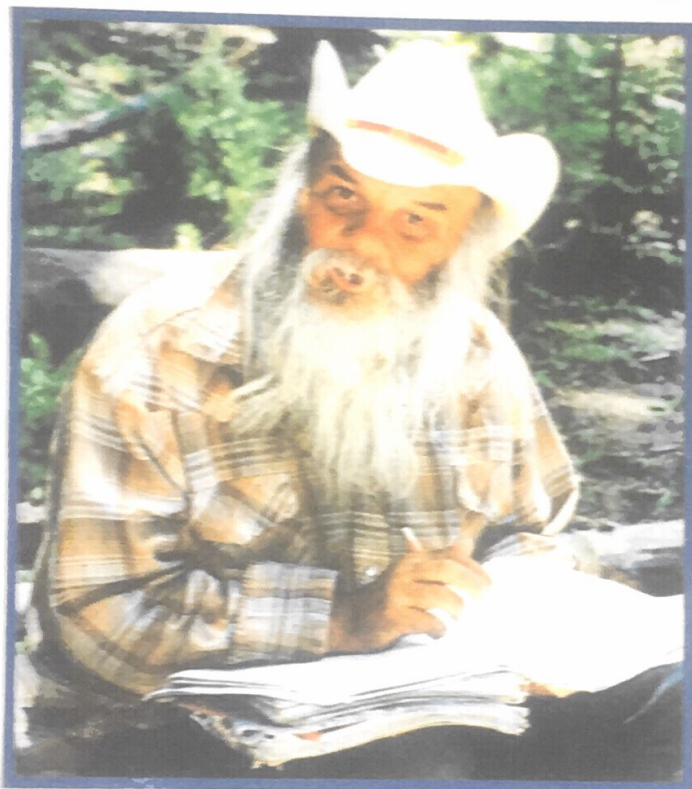


Rainbow Family Life Stories



*by Jodey Bateman.
Interviews with Rainbow
Family of Living Light
folks conducted between
1977 and 2008.*

Scanned in 2018.

*Jodey Bateman may be
contacted on Facebook.*

or jodey.bateman@yahoo.com

11.C

SAINT STEPHEN - "It Takes
100%"

11 pages

[11.C]

[Clay's prediction that the Christ Family would fall apart has not come true. I met St Stephen at The Southwest Regional Rainbow Gathering in October, 1983. From his description the Christ Family is larger and more secure and prosperous than ever, though some of their taboos are weakening.]

I was born in Orlando, Florida in 1961. My dad, he worked in greenhouses. My mother worked in a chicken farm. We went to Baptist church. When I was three years old, I had a dream. I was outside the house. Jesus, the Archangel Michael and Abraham came riding up to the house on donkeys. Jesus came to the house. He sat down on the steps and was talking ~~with~~ with my parents. As he was talking to my parents, he was pointing at me. I woke up and the next day I had an uncle come up and we ate sugar cane.

Not long after that, I went to my grandpa's house. He had a fire pit built. The fire was out and it was white ashes. I figured I could walk across the top of it and burnt both my feet, so they wouldn't let me leave the house.

Then we moved to Indio, California. We lived in tipis in Indio. There was six of us kids. We were picking up rocks, me and my brothers, to put around the water system. I was four then. My brother threw a rock on the truck and it rolled off and smashed my toe. My mom took me to the hospital and on the way there was a train going over the bridge. So I wished I was riding that train. They took me to the hospital and pulled my toenail off. Then they took me back to the tipi and my brothers and sisters brought me plums.

We moved to Montgomery, Alabama. When I got about ten, I wondered what was down the road from the city I was living in. I didn't like school. A bunch of smart mouth teachers. I used to pray to God about my mother whipping me and making me go to school. I ~~knew~~ God didn't create school. I prayed about how school was wearing me out, making me get up at seven o'clock. So the next day I went and hung out in the woods and watched my parents drive off. I stayed in bed until two o'clock when I woke up. I put my school clothes on before my little brother got home, so he didn't know I skipped school. Nobody knew except me and God and the angels. I knew I

(16)

was special and from Heaven when I was ten years old.

My parents got divorced. The divorce busted my family up. My mom was a harlot because she cheated on my dad. I don't like my step dad. He ran a fruit stand. My momma whipped me with a switch from head to toe - often. I thought she was a witch when she was doing it. I wasn't a bad kid either. I was a pretty humble kid. I loved my mom because she was my mom but she didn't know how to raise kids. God watched over me. Everything I wanted to do, I got to do it. Like I wanted a ten-speed and my mom wouldn't buy it. So she worked in a Magic Market and won a ten-speed for selling more Coca-Colas than any other Magic Market in the state. In the fourth grade, every time I prayed to have a girlfriend, I got one.

New Year's Eve, 1977, I ran away to Apopka, Florida to my uncle's. I stayed there six months. My mom and my step dad came after me. I told them to go to hell and leave me alone. A month after my parents come down to get me, God sent me back to them. I stayed with them a month.

I ran away again to a truck stop. I met a trucker named Old Testament. Me and him went and loaded a truck with tomatoes in Palatka, Florida. Then we left Palatka and went to Minneapolis. So Old Testament bought me a carton of Marlboras and dropped me off in Hopkins, Minnesota. As soon as I stuck out my thumb, a car picked me up and took me to the on-ramp of the interstate. I was still 15.

A brand-new car with two blonde-haired women pulled over and picked me up. Their name was Sherrle and Finch. They were going to the races 500 miles south. They wanted me to live with them at their mom's house, but I didn't do it. I left the races and went to Montgomery, Alabama. I went and stayed with two women that were celibates in Montgomery. One woman had a son whose name was Mark which was the same age as me. The other woman was her daughter. They were both celibates and me, I was the hell-raiser of the town. I stayed in Montgomery a month and a half and then the woman and her kids took me on a vacation with them to Illinois.

Sherrie and Finch, the two girls from ~~the~~ Hopkins, Minnesota, drove to Illinois to meet me, but I didn't meet them. I went back to Montgomery. Then I started going out ⁽¹⁷⁾ with George Washington's great-great-great granddaughter. Then I went to Georgia. I started painting and putting up wallpaper in Atlanta. I stayed there about three months. Me and my brother-in-law and sister decided we were gonna move to Houston. The day we packed to move was the first day I got to see snow in my life.

In Houston I never wore shoes and I didn't like short hair. Me and my brother-in-law we stayed together over a month. Then we got into a fight and he threw me all around the house. Bid dude. Then I called up my girlfriend and she let me stay at her house for two weeks. I had just turned 16. Then I moved to a halfway house. My parents signed the paper that cut me loose, so I was free. I decided I wanted to be a vegetarian because I knew it was more healthier for me. So I started working in a health food store. I worked there for two weeks and broke up with my girlfriend. We had a girl child that year, but I knew she wasn't mine. God was the father. I offered her to him.

I went to live with my mom and step dad in Florida. I told my mom that I wanted to be a vegetarian and she just started laughing. My sister stuck flesh in her mouth and she was laughing. So I wasn't a vegetarian because I didn't know how. So I moved back to Montgomery. I was in Montgomery cutting the grass when God spoke from the heavens and called me Stephen. A couple of days later I was sitting in the front yard looking at a picture of Elvis and a bunch of policemen around him. That's when I knew I was supposed to sit with the ~~the~~ President and ~~the~~ the Congressmen.

Six months later in 1980, I met the Christ Family. The brothers were setting around, talking about Jesus. So I asked them, who was this man Jesus they were talking about? Enoch said it was Jesus, so I didn't ask no more. I knew it right then. ~~I just knew that~~ ~~I knew that~~ setting with these men that all my dreams had come true. I was at home around the campfire with holy men and women. I put on my robe the first day I met the brothers.

There was ten of us in the camp. Enoch and Mohammed was the oldest brothers in the camp. Enoch traveled with a robe on preaching no killing, no sex and no materialism, that Jesus Christ Lightning Amen was back on earth.

(18) When

he first met the brothers, he was crippled. He crawled on his hands and knees for two weeks. Then God gave his spine back to him. He took off his robe for two years and went and checked with all the churches and all the religions in the United States. He put back on his robe and had traveled for two years and then I met him. When I seen him, I seen Jesus standing in him in a spiritual body.

I left with a man named Duncan who was in the Christ Family. He was a professional singer. He had traveled down the road for a year and a half and had never seen Jesus physically. So I trucked with Duncan for one week. My feet started hurting so someone gave us 50 cents a piece to take a bus where a camp of brothers and sisters were in South Miami in an avocado grove. As we walked into the avi grove there was a man and woman in the avi grove in white robes and bare feet named Roy and Anna. Next day two more brothers came named Robert and Bryan. Robert reminded me of Merlin the wizard.

So me and Bryan left the avi grove together with Brother Ray and went to West Palm. I had a vision that night of a short blond haired brother standing in the middle of the river and a green truck of brothers and sisters were going into the river. The river had white shining rocks in it. The blond haired brother was King David. The next day me and the two brothers were walking up the street when I saw a green bus with a brown stripe pull up. I knew that was the Christ Family bus and I had never seen it before. So I pointed out the bus and said "There is one of our buses." When I got to the bus, Saint Luke was driving it. So I was very overwhelmed ~~with such joy~~ to meet a king. As I sat down on the bus, Luke served the brothers coffee. So I looked up at Luke and told him what a nice joy to be served by Saint Luke and he said "It's a joy serving you." Then a man and a woman walked on board that looked like twins. I couldn't tell if they were male or female until the woman spoke. They both had beards. They were Saint Thomas and Saint Camille.

We moved the bus to another destination and then Saint Edward came on board. Luke gave me and Thomas and Camille \$50 and told us to go back to the avocado grove and set up a camp. So I prayed to God and asked him

to let me meet hundreds of brothers and I did. I went to the avocado grove and ¹⁹ when Jacob came walking in. Me and Jacob walked ten miles north the next day. The next day a woman walked up to me, told me she had seen an angel and she looked at me. She seen an angel and she looked at me. She seen an angel as bright as day. She was crying. I gave her the three keys and she gave me three dollars. I slept in a patch of woods. The next morning a man walked over who had just gotten out of the Army.

He gave me a ride. We got on the wrong road, but went to the same place that he was going. I knew that I was going to see angels or be around angels. Fifteen minutes later there was three angels by the side of the road walking toward me. I told the man to stop and let me out. He called the angels hippies. I sat down and had communion with them - some oranges. Their name was Joseph, Thomas and Stephen. We got up and started walking.

A man and a woman pulled over and took us to their house in Daytona Beach. They had known the Christ Family for years. It was like settling around with vampires. A few years before they had thrown away \$30,000 over a bridge and gave away everything they had. But without receiving the brothers, they couldn't keep the faith. So their eyes were made blind and they were sent back to hell. They denied the brothers and called them false prophets so their bed was made defiled with iniquities. I opened the Bible and I read "Blessed are they that come in white robes because they are without fault before the throne of God and they have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and they serve him day and night in his temple." So I knew the Christ Family was the truth.

So I served the brotherhood with all I had, walking through the snow and the rain in my bare feet and my white robe. I was taken to a house that was full of 20 Christ brothers and sisters - 20 angels. The first man that I met when I walked in was Archangel Gabriel that was from Heaven, the place that I was before I came here and he knew that I was Stephen. The next man that I met was Archangel Raphael, the archangel of wisdom. Then I met the three J's - June, Joann and Joyce. Their man's name was Rose. They were all in the Christ Family in fulfillment of the Scriptures - Rose and the three J's.

That evening there was a man working in a boat pulling weeds out of a lake. His name was John the Baptist. Or as the Christ Family knows,

Happy John. He looked like a drunk but when he spoke to me he took me through the universe. That's when I knew his spirit was the spirit of John the Baptist and Elijah and he was a prophet. He opened a book in his lap that had the stars. And the stars that he pointed at, Jesus took me to. And what the voice of the Lord told me when I was at those stars was that when he left this planet, I was going with him. Then I knew that

Lightning Amen was the Lord God Almighty.

I met Lightning Amen in Spring 1980 in Washington D.C. I had been in Washington DC for a month and a half. There was 300 Christ Brothers there but not all at one time. The night before I met Lightning there was a convoy of Christ Family vans and buses. Ted Kennedy was pulling into the White House. When the police looked at the vans, they seen the Star of David fly up from the vans and machine guns fly out. But the Christ Family does not carry guns. The policeman walked to Lightning Amen and told him he wanted to shoot him. He said it three times. Lightning said he didn't want to do anything to the policeman. One week later the policeman got what he offered to Lightning.

At the same hour the policeman said he wanted to shoot Lightning, it started raining and hailing. Me and a brother and sister stepped up under a bus stop and watched it hail. As soon as the bus stopped, it stopped hailing. We had to get off the bus to change buses and when we got on the bus, it started hailing. When we changed buses, it stopped again. When we were on the next bus it started raining. It stopped way before we got off. I could tell you so many stories of miracle like that.

When we got to the house it was full of about 30 brothers and sisters. In the house was Archangel Michael. The next morning when I woke up, a brother asked me if I had seen Jesus. I said no. So I told Jesus that I would go out and see him. When I went out, the back of the lawn truck that Jesus was resting in was rolled up. Mother Mary and Jesus were in the back of the truck in a handmade camper. Jesus looked the same way he looked in the dream where I seen him when I was three years old and his voice was the same voice that had spoken to me from

the heavens and the same voice that spoke to me beyond the stars. So I told him that the sun was shining and to come out and enjoy it with the brothers. He told me he would be out in just a little bit. (21)

I went back in the house and got my Army blanket, my tote sack and my sleeping bag and went back outside and waited on a brother to walk into town with me. A sister came out and asked me if I had eaten with the brothers yet. I said no. So she told me to go inside and eat with the brothers. So as I walked in the house, a man approached me and told me that he had prayed to God that he could walk to town with me. So I told him that I was waiting for him. He wanted to go to his grandmother's house. So we went to Pennsylvania Square. He left for two hours and didn't come back. So I went to the People's Drug Store and bought some apple tobacco for my pipe, got on board the subway to the Mall in front of the White House. I sat down and filled up my pipe. As soon as I smoked half of the bowl, Archangel Michael and Sister Rachel came driving by on the minibus shouting the Keys to Heaven over the bull horn to hundreds of people. So I was a reinforcement to talk to the people standing before the Smithsonian Institute of Art.

As I was walking to where Michael had the bus parked, I ran into a man and woman dressed in white robes. The man was into yoga and into floating-transcendental meditation. So I asked him to give it up so that he could come together with the Christ Family. So he walked on board the bus and asked the Archangel Michael about the space. Michael told him the same thing that I told him.

Before I got in the Christ Family was the rough tough days, the days of judgment. They used to shout at the police. Michael used to get punched by the police every day. The ones who went through that time are called the Mighty Ones of God. There ain't no force on earth that can stand against them. It's like Noah one time was on the bus and he woke up and there was policemen standing outside with guns all around the bus and he told them "Put your toys away. You don't need them here." And they did.

Brothers do some strange things sometimes. They used to go into churches when the door was unlocked and sometimes the priest would come and

throw them in jail. Well, who was wrong, the brothers because it was cold and rainy outside or the priest who would not receive his brothers?

The Christ Family are always with me on the inside. Lightning Amen is running for President in 1984, but he already is President, so there ain't no changes. He said "You got to have a perfect record. Nobody in your family can be thrown in jail if you want to be president." He said "Do you think I can meet that standard?" I didn't ask no more. Whatever he says,

he can do. The platform is no killing, no sex and no materialism and the Ten Commandments. Lightning Amen will set up his kingdom on earth.

In another thousand years, the sons and daughters of God will reign forever with God. The sons and daughters of darkness will be de-created the same as they were created. God will destroy them.

The physical flesh is pain and suffering. Aches and pains when you get up in the morning just having to carry this thing around. The spirit that's in the flesh is God walking on earth. I see a world of separation and sin. I don't want the fruits of it. All I want is the spirits - if they want to come to the world I'm from. You got to live like Lightning Amen lives. You got to sit like he sits - on the ground like a Christ Brother. You got to eat like he eats.

I still enjoy smoking herb and taking mushrooms. I enjoy everything that comes out of the earth. I enjoy tobacco but I can see giving it up. I don't like speed or pills - even aspirin. I like go swimming in the Christ Family. Jesus likes to swim. Brothers and sisters don't uncover their nakedness before each other.

Sex ain't of God. Once you bite that apple, you got to pay the price. If God lets me out, why should I want back in this thing that has lustful desires? I still go through them every day, but I'm strong enough that it doesn't bother me. I want to be a virgin all my life. I'm not a virgin now, but in my next life I can be. Many worlds to be born into in the universe ain't there? Like Jupiter could have life on it that you can't see. Like there's other realms on earth. They're proven there's a kingdom on earth that you can't see.

I was with very popular women-like Sherrie and Finch in Minnesota. I gave up the whole trip of being nice-looking. Now women don't even want to be around me and I'm thankful for that. Now I'm spiritual. (23)

Do you know what a handmaiden is? A woman that God created to be your woman. Mine, I know who she is. She's just like me. Why do I want the rest when I've got the best? When you travel with the woman who was created from within you-like Eve from Adam-you don't want to touch with no other woman or anybody. We don't have sex. The love I share with her is ten times greater than any sexual relationship. What comes with sexual relationships is arguments and frustration.

We got our own holy songs now on an album called "Pure Righteousness." A lot of Christ Family houses have record players now. It just keeps getting hotter. One song goes:

"My holy Ma I greet you with a holy kiss

When in parting there's no departing.

I go within to the Amen without form."

To me the holy kiss is just the sweet piece of the other person. My Mary is Queen of Heaven:

"My holy Ma I greet you with a holy kiss

When in parting there's no departing.

I go within to the Mother without form."

My earthly parents couldn't touch them with a ten foot pole. I don't care if I ever see my mother and brother and sisters again. It's like a bird when he leaves the nest. My mother is really my sister. My real mother you're walking on her. And they're not my brothers and sisters. The people in the white robes and bare feet are my brothers and sisters. I don't want to see my daughter. If you see her once, you want to see her twice.

Jesus says you have to forsake mother, father, sister, brother, son and daughter. How can you go out preaching with a child hanging on you? It's a pretty heavy thing. There's one sister that done it-Rose and the Thread's, her daughters. They got put in foster homes because of the school system. They're all in white robes now, but they don't hang around with each other.

There are some people not in the white robes that I got a deep involvement with. There's one brother that's got something against hippies. I'm gonna call him when I get out of the gathering and tell him I just spent a week with three or four hundred hippies. Gypsy Michael with his accordion seems like the leader of the Rainbow Family. He's got a lot of power in him. You can tell it. Some people are created leaders. His being looks the same as Archangel Michael of the Christ Family, but they're just the opposite. Like if this was the Christ Family, everybody would be sitting in a circle very quiet, everything very clean and neat and very Zen. In the Christ Family you got the brothers and sisters of life. In the Rainbow Family you got the Grateful Dead. I see the Rainbow Gathering from a spiritual point of view. Sometimes I see the light and sometimes I see the darkness. One thing I've learned at the gathering is that you can't be an angel and break God's laws.

I've got on pants now. God does not agree with it. I don't agree with it, but it's something I've got to do. I've got to go into hell to learn. God doesn't have to tell me to wear pants, he just puts me there. This is the first year with the Christ Family that I've worn shoes. It feels strange, but it keeps my feet warm. There's a lot of Christ Family brothers in blue jeans and T-shirts now because they got business to take care of for the Lord. They wear cloth shoes.

When people have spent several years going up and down the road in the robe, they usually homestead. That's what I'm getting ready to do. Because the roads pretty hard, men like we have houses all over America. In England we have a great big piece of land that's a sanctuary. We have houses in South America and Australia and China. We call our houses way stations - places for a holy man to stay a few days and then move on. Really I don't want to be on this planet no more. It's not set up the way I want to live. Sometimes I want to stay here a whole life time. Other days I don't want to stay here no more - the same as anybody else, I guess.

The Bible says there will be wolves wearing white robes. It says no man can come to the Father unless the Father brings him in. Unless

(25)
a man reaches a certain level he can't enter the Father's throne room - not even if he wears a white robe. Only lambs can come in. There's only a very few false Christ brothers. They only last a couple of months and then they go back to their jobs. They can't stand the pressure. To go for a month without a shower is hard for some people, but to a Christ Brother it's a joy.

One time I had a Christ Brother tell me he wanted me to move and God didn't want me to. He told me he was gonna punch me and it shook me up and I said "Man, what are you doing wearing that white robe? We don't want a bunch of wolves wearing white robes. We want lambs." That was the only time it ever happened and God meant it to happen to humble him.

Anybody can come in the Christ Family. Everybody's welcome - but it takes 100%. You got to give all to know all.

[When I parted from St. Stephen, we shook hands - a custom that was forbidden by the Christ Family when I first met them.]

As of 1986, Christ Family members are allowed to have sex. They all wear pants now, usually white. Lightning Amen has bought himself a motorcycle.]